

NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
April 9, 2015
MINUTES

PRESENT: Colleen Schaller, Carol deLemos, Ed Cosgrove, Phyllis Fanger,
Monica Graham, Penny Grossman, Tom Keating, Eilene Kleiman,
NOT PRESENT: Dan Goldberg, Susanne Hughes, Lianne Relich, Scott Brightman
STAFF: Jamie Brenner Gutner
CONVENE: 6:00 p.m. – The Center at the Heights, 300 Hillside Avenue

Discussion:

- I. Call To Order – 6:05 p.m. –Colleen Schaller, and Carol deLemos Co-Chairs**
Carol deLemos, Co-Chair, called the April 9, 2015 Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**
E.Cosgrove moved that the Board vote to approve the March 12, 2015 Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as amended. E.Kleiman seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote.
- III. Chairperson’s Report – Carol deLemos& Colleen Schaller**
C. deLemos stated that the 2015 Street Fair will be on Saturday, June 6th. Application deadline is May 18th. T. Keating noted that as a member of the Needham VFW it is an opportunity to be more visible in the community. T. Keating added that he recommends participating. A general discussion followed on cost and logistics. C. Schaller noted that we have no new items to highlight except for the increase in program offerings. There was discussion around the fact that there are always a lot of families and children present at the event and the concern was what would be the benefit gained from the COA being in attendance. E. Cosgrove stated two years ago, after having moved into the new facility, there was a lot of interest. E. Cosgrove added that participation might be a useful if it can be staffed as visibility is important. E. Kleiman agreed and stated that the COA should participate. P. Fanger suggested having some action for folks to participate in but noted staffing could be an issue. A general discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Board to participate if it could be staffed. This item would be brought back for further consideration at the next Board meeting.
- VI. Executive Director Report – J. Brenner Gutner**
The Board expressed their appreciation for an excellent Executive Director’s Report. P. Grossman stated she is excited that an application was submitted for the MetroWest Health Foundation Grant and volunteered for any follow-up if necessary. E. Cosgrove asked for more information on the LaSalle College student intern placement. J. Brenner Gutner responded that the intern would be an undergraduate student and would require supervision but not at an MSW level. J. Brenner Gutner added that she is not sure if she

would pursue the offer. Monica Graham offered to supervise the LaSalle College intern if needed.

J. Brenner Gutner expressed how wonderful the Public Health Department has been in supporting the grant proposal just submitted to MetroWest. Tim McDonald and Donna Carmichael have been great to work with. J. Brenner Gutner stated the grant, if awarded, would provide access to care for those not able to receive social and emotional support during current business hours. The grant would provide funding across multiple years.

C. deLemos asked for more information on VNACare Network notification of the Mutual of America Community Partnership Award luncheon. J. Brenner Gutner responded that as she understood it the application process was competitive and rigorous but she did not know how long it took. Invitees were given several weeks notice about the luncheon in which chosen partners of the Elder Health Clinic Program were going to be honored. Special recognition was given to two COA Directors for their advocacy and support of the Program. J. Brenner Gutner also spoke about the positive collaboration between our Public Health Nurses and the VNACare Network nurse.

E. Kleiman asked about ongoing training for volunteers. J. B. Gutner responded that Penny Gordon meets with volunteers to be sure things are working out. J. B. Gutner noted that there are 200 or more volunteers that support the Council on Aging. A general discussion followed and veered towards the senior population in Needham. C. deLemos noted there are over 7000 seniors in Needham making up about 24% of the population.

V. Friends of the Needham Elderly (F.O.N.E), Inc. Report – J. Brenner Gutner
No Report

VI. Committee Reports

- **Art Committee – S. Hughes, E. Kleiman, C. Schaller, C. deLemos**
Wall art to be installed on 4/25/15. The group is still undecided on the metal sculpture.

VII. Board Member Update

Board members shared some personal history.

VIII. Adjournment

P. Grossman made a motion to adjourn the April 9, 2015 COA Board Meeting. C. deLemos seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.